

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

Public Services – Vijayawada Municipal Corporation – Allegations of irregularities in construction of buildings in Vijayawada Municipal Corporation Limits – Disciplinary proceedings initiated against Sri S. Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, Vijayawada Municipal Corporation – Inquiry conducted – Imposition of penalty of “withholding one (1) annual grade increment with cumulative effect” – Orders – Issued.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION & URBAN DEVELOPMENT (VIG.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 163

Dated: 06-03-2025

Read the following:

1. From the Director General, Vigilance & Enforcement Department Vigilance Report No. 63 (C.No.826/V&E/D1/2017), dated 24.06.2019,.
2. G.O.Rt.No.627, M.A. & U.D. (Vig.II) Dept., dated 24.09.2019..
3. G.O.Rt.Nos.356, M.A. & U.D. (Vig.II) Dept., dated 13.07.2021.
4. WSD of Sri Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC, Dt:02.09.2021.
5. G.O.Rt.Nos.643-644, MA&UD (Vig.II) Department, dated 21.07.2023.
6. Inquiry Report of Smt. K.Naga Sundari, Addl. Director & Inquiry Officer, dt:30.06.2023 received through the DTCP, AP, Lr. Roc.No. 5611/2019/V.Cell, dated 21.07.2023..
7. Govt Memo No.2808162/Viq.II.I/2019/A1(E-980567), dated 06.11.2023
8. From DTCP Lr.Roc.No.5611/2019/V.Cell, dated 11/01/2024 & 04.12.2024

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ORDER:-

Whereas, based on the report of the Vigilance & Enforcement Department in reference 1st read above, the Government initiated common disciplinary proceedings in the reference 2nd read above, against Sri Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC, along with four others from the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation (VMC), for alleged irregularities in construction and building deviations from approved plans within the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation. Accordingly, in reference 3rd read above, charges were framed against Sri Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC.

2. In the reference 4th read above, the charged officer i.e Sri Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC submitted his written statement of defence by denying the charges framed against him and requested to drop further action. Having not convinced with the written statement of defence submitted by the charged officer, it has been decided to conduct regular inquiry and accordingly, orders have been issued, appointing Smt. K. Nagasundari, Additional Director, APTIDCO, as an Inquiry Officer, to inquire into the charges framed against all the Charged Officers in the G.O. 5th read above.

3. The Inquiry Authority conducted inquiry into the charges framed against the charged officers and submitted her report, in reference 6th read above. The Inquiry Authority among others, stated that the charged officer i.e. Sri Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC had allowed the owners to complete the building with setback deviations without taking the prompt action as per the relevant Act provisions at initial

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stage and thereby exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty, maintaining absolute integrity, disciplinary, impartially and a sense of property and conduct unbecoming of a member of service and thereby contravened Rule 3 of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.. Finally, the Inquiry Authority stated that out of the four (4) charges framed against Sri Dharma Rao, three (3) charges were held proved, and one (1) charge was partly proved.

4. In the reference 7th read above, Government have accepted the findings of the Inquiry Officer and communicated a copy of inquiry report to the all the charged officers, including Sri Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC, directing them to submit their written representation, if any, within 15 days to the Government on the findings of the Inquiry Officer, in accordance with Rule 21(2) of the A.P.C.S. (CC & A) Rules, 1991, duly informing that failure to submit the written representations within the time allowed, it will be construed that, they have no written representation to submit, and action will be taken based on the material available with Government, as per the A.P.C.S. (CC & A), Rules, 1991.

5. The DTCP, AP, in the reference 8 th read above, has informed that the charged officers have not submitted written representations on the Inquiry report and furnished the served copies in respect of all the Charged Officers to Govt. for taking further action in the matter.

6. Based on the findings of the Inquiry Officer and the gravity of the charges, the Government have decided to impose a penalty of "withholding one (1) annual grade increment with cumulative effect" against Sri S. Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC, under Rule 9 of the A.P.C.S. (CC & A) Rules, 1991. Accordingly, the Government hereby impose a penalty of "withholding one (1) annual grade increment with cumulative effect" against Sri S. Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC, under Rule 9 of the A.P.C.S. (CC & A) Rules, 1991

7. The Director, Town and Country Planning, A.P., Guntur., shall take necessary action to implement the penalty imposed.

8. The receipt of the G.O., shall be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

S SURESH KUMAR
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

Sri Dharma Rao, the then Assistant City Planner, VMC, now working as Deputy Director, APCRDA, Vijayawada.

The Director, Town and Country Planning, A.P., Guntur.

Copy to:

The Commissioner, Vijayawada Municipal Corporation, NTR District.

The Commissioner and Director of Municipal Administration, A.P., Mangalagiri.

The, Vigilance & Enforcement Department.

The Secretary to A.P. Vigilance Commission, 5th Building, A.P. Secretariat.

SF/SC.

//FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER.